

# WHAT'S *New*

in the Metropolitan Police Department



*A weekly update for residents, visitors,  
and workers in the District of Columbia*

*Friday, September 9, 2005*

## MPDC SALUTES 27 MEMBERS WHO ACCOMPANIED KATRINA RELIEF CARAVAN TO THE GULF COAST

The call went out over the police radio last Friday at about 1 pm: approximately two dozen sworn MPDC members were needed to accompany DC's relief convoy to the Gulf Coast region that had been ravaged by Hurricane Katrina. The buses would be staging at the DC Armory in just two hours. Despite the short turn-around time and the uncertainty of the situation in New Orleans and elsewhere, 27 MPDC members immediately volunteered for the mission – and many more offered to help. Chief Ramsey and the entire city salute these men and women for their compassion, selflessness and dedication to duty. Although evacuees ended up coming to DC via planes instead of buses, the team (which included emergency workers and social service personnel) made the best of the situation. They dropped off tons of badly needed relief supplies in the Gulf Coast region, and MPDC officers even organized an impromptu birthday party for a 7-year-old hurricane victim who had sought refuge with his family in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Thanks and congratulations to the following MPDC members: Lt. Brian R. McAllister, Office of the Superintendent of Detectives; Sergeants Frank Edwards, James Ginger, Leo Scully and Christopher Yezzi, Special Operations Division, and Harry Hill, Regional Operations Command-North; Officers Monica Coleman, Sean Corcoran, George Gomez, Sean Hearn, Paul Hustler, Michael Mentzer and James Yates, SOD; Michael Fanone and Peter Trifu, 1D, Eugene Kennedy and Linda Washington, 2D; Dustin Nevel and Michelle Arroyo, 3D, Frank Durphy and Medgar Webster, 4D, Juritha Diggs and Anthony Washington, 5D, David Moran and Dione Myles, 6D, and Kevin Rachklin and Hank Williams, 7D.

- ① The District is sheltering many Gulf Coast evacuees at the DC Armory. Volunteers and donated goods are vital to the success of this shelter. If you are able to contribute to this effort, please register online at:  
<http://rrc.dc.gov/rrc/cwp/view.asp?a=1189&q=457425&PM=1>
- ① DC's Attorney General warns residents about fraudulent online charities in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Details at:  
[http://oag.dc.gov/occ/cwp/view,a,11,q,632005,occNav\\_GID,1521.asp](http://oag.dc.gov/occ/cwp/view,a,11,q,632005,occNav_GID,1521.asp)

## REGIONAL OFFICIALS ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS TO “BE READY, MAKE A PLAN”

In conjunction with National Preparedness Month, the 12 jurisdictions of the National Capital Region (NCR) have launched the National Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Campaign. The NCR Campaign, which is funded by a grant from the US Department of Homeland Security, is a regional collaboration bringing together federal, state and local governments and the private and nonprofit sectors to provide citizen education on emergency preparedness. The campaign kickoff, held this past week at DC Fire Engine Company 24, featured local and state government officials from the 12 jurisdictions encompassing the District of Columbia and parts of Maryland and Virginia. During September, the NCR Campaign will engage in a number of activities to reach residents with the important message, “Be Ready, Make A Plan.” Activities include launching an area-wide advertising campaign, providing community training on emergency preparedness to inform individuals how to create a preparedness plan using the campaign's own personal preparedness card, and distributing campaign materials to residents through regional organizations and community events. Campaign research indicates that only 39 percent of NCR residents report they are prepared for an emergency. The campaign's goal is to increase that figure to at least 50 percent in the short term.

- ① For more information, call 1-866-788-PLAN, or visit:  
<http://www.makeaplan.org>
- ① View DC's Family Emergency Preparedness Guide at:  
<http://www.dccema.dc.gov/dccema/cwp/view.asp?a=1226&q=533571&dccemanav=31810>
- ① For more information and resources, go to:  
[http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1237,q,547382,mpdcNav\\_GID,1547.asp](http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1237,q,547382,mpdcNav_GID,1547.asp)

## OFFICERS OF THE MONTH ARE HONORED AT SEPTEMBER CHAMPS AWARDS CEREMONY

Earlier this year, Officers Justin Truby and Robert Wells of the Fifth District were on patrol when they observed a green Ford Tempo bearing Maryland tags make a left turn in the 300 block of Bryant Street, NE, without signaling. The officers stopped the vehicle and began interviewing the driver and the front and rear passengers. The driver told Officer Truby that the tags on the vehicle belonged to a friend's vehicle. During the discussion, Officer Truby observed the driver reach into his right pants pocket and take out a clear zip-lock bag containing several white rocks. The driver stretched his arms out and dropped the bag on the rear floorboard, at which time Officer Truby directed the driver to get out of the vehicle and placed him in handcuffs. Officer Wells searched the vehicle and retrieved a clear plastic zip-lock bag containing a white rock substance and a 9mm handgun. The white rock substance field-tested positive for cocaine, and the suspect was arrested on various charges. For their diligence in patrolling their Northeast community and in successfully identifying a drug suspect and taking a weapon off the streets, Officers Truby and Wells were recently honored at the monthly CHAMPS Awards Ceremony. They joined 14 other MPDC members who were recognized as "officers of the month."

## MPDC ANNOUNCES ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES

Chief Ramsey has announced various changes to the organization of the MPDC. The changes do not affect the basic structure of patrol and investigative operations; the current system of Police Service Areas, Districts and Regional Operations Commands remains intact. However, there are a number of changes to specialized operational, research and general support functions that are designed to streamline and improve Departmental operations. Six new organizational elements are established under the new changes: the Office of Security Services, which includes the School Safety Division, Youth Violence Prevention Section and Cadet Training Unit; Traffic Safety and Special Enforcement Branch, which consolidates several traffic-related functions; Homeland Security and Counterterrorism Section, within the Special Operations Division; General Support Services Division, which includes such functions as equipment, facilities and fleet management; Policy and Program Development Division, which focuses on the areas of risk management, program development, victim services and internal directives; and a new Intergovernmental Relations Division. Various existing elements have been renamed or transferred within the organizational structure.

## NEWS & NOTES

**Civilian Career Opportunities.** The MPDC continues to seek qualified applicants for three civilian positions within the agency, including a new posting for a writer in the Office of Organizational Development. For information, including requirements, salaries, and application procedures and guidelines, go to <http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1230,q,538142.asp>.

**New Criminal Justice Website.** The National Criminal Justice Reference Service has a redesigned website that now provides visitors with powerful new tools to access justice information. New features include a more comprehensive search function, expanded topical resources, an express shopping cart system, and a database of questions and answers. Access at <http://www.ncjrs.gov>.

① Read about all of their outstanding police work at:  
[http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1234,q,558050,mpdcNav\\_GID,1544.asp](http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1234,q,558050,mpdcNav_GID,1544.asp)

① CHAMPS (Capital Hotels Award Metropolitan Police Service) is a monthly awards program hosted by the Hotel Association of Washington, DC. The September awards luncheon was hosted by the Hotel Washington in Northwest.

① Members of the public are invited to submit commendations for outstanding MPDC officers anytime, using the online form:  
[http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1241,q,548642,mpdcNav\\_GID,1523,mpdcNav\\_|.asp](http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1241,q,548642,mpdcNav_GID,1523,mpdcNav_|.asp)

① View the MPDC's updated organizational chart at:  
[http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1230,q,540851,mpdcNav\\_GID,1529,mpdcNav\\_|.asp](http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1230,q,540851,mpdcNav_GID,1529,mpdcNav_|.asp)

### DATA BOX

<b>Homicides</b>	<b>as of 9/9/05</b>
◆ 2005: 133	
◆ 2004: 135	
◆ % Change: -1.5%	
◆ Closure Rate: 52.6% (70 closures)	
<b>Adult Arrests</b>	<b>week end. 9/3/05</b>
◆ Total: 1,068	
◆ Drugs: 199	
◆ Weapons: 31	
◆ Motor Vehicle Theft: 19	
◆ Prostitution/Sex Offenses: 31	
<b>Juvenile Activity</b>	<b>week end. 9/3/05</b>
◆ Arrests: 51	
◆ Curfew Violations: 99	
◆ Truants: 16	
<b>Firearm Recoveries</b>	<b>as of 9/7/05</b>
◆ September: 17	
◆ August: 206	
◆ 2005 Total: 1,610	
<b>Traffic Fatalities</b>	<b>as of 9/9/05</b>
◆ 2005: 30	
◆ 2004: 36	
◆ % Change: -16.7%	

Information, ideas, or comments about this service? Send an e-mail to **KEVIN MORISON**, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at [kevin.morison@dc.gov](mailto:kevin.morison@dc.gov). Would you like to have this information e-mailed to you? Just go to our Website and register with **Crimereports.com**.

**mpdc.dc.gov**